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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 28, 2006.

Carolyn Beason-Wright  
Carolyn Beason-Wright



Our Case No.: 10703/042 (PA-5375-RFB)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Darin G. Schaeffer, et al.

Serial No.: 10/769,962

Filing Date: February 2, 2004

For: TRACHEOSTOMY TUBE AND  
LOADING DILATOR

Examiner: Ali, Shumaya B.

Group Art Unit No.: 3743

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF JUNE 13, 2006**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed June 13, 2006.

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments begin** on page 6 of this paper.